U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-37 (Rev. 7-05) PRIMARY EXAMINER

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Art Unit: 2824

## **REASON FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. Claims 1-24 are allowed over prior art of references.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance is for at least the reason of the inclusion of a repair search circuit for determining a minimum address information required for replacing the information of abnormal cells determined by a build-in self test circuit and a buffer mounted on a same chip as disclosed with all the limitations in claims 1-24.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1879. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Elms can be reached on (571) 272-1869. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

H. Nguyen TN November 22, 2005